

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for making a recloseable package having a package body including first and second sides that face in opposite directions, a pair of closure profiles adapted to be interconnected with one another and positioned to project outwardly from the first side of the package body, and a pair of retaining shoulders positioned to project outwardly from the second side of the package body, the method comprising:

concurrently extruding the package body, the pair of closure profiles, and the pair of retaining shoulders from a single extrusion die to form a package structure.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising cooling the package structure by submersion in a cooling bath.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the package structure enters the cooling bath generally at a right angle relative to a top surface of the cooling bath.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising cooling the package structure by spraying a coolant on the package structure.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising cooling the package structure by contact with a chill roller.

6. The method of claim 5, including further cooling of the closure profiles by applying a cooling fluid to the closure profiles.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein applying the cooling fluid includes spraying the cooling fluid on the closure profiles.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising conveying the package structure about a roller, wherein the first side of the package body faces the roller as the package

structure is conveyed about the roller, and wherein the roller includes reduced diameter portions that correspond to the closure profiles and an increased diameter portion that corresponds to the package body.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the reduced diameter portions comprise grooves.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising conveying the package structure about a roller, wherein the second side of the package body faces the roller as the package structure is conveyed about the roller, and wherein the roller includes an increased diameter portion that corresponds to the package body.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the roller includes reduced diameter portions corresponding to the pair of retaining shoulders of the package structure.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising conveying the package structure about a roller, wherein the roller includes a resilient outer surface having sufficient resiliency to prevent the closure profiles from deforming as the package structure is conveyed about the roller.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the package structure is vertically extruded.

14. The method of claim 1, further comprising forming the closure profiles at opposite edges of the package structure.

15. The method of claim 1, further comprising casting a peel seal and incorporating the peel seal into the package structure prior to cooling.

16. A method for making a recloseable package, comprising:

extruding a package body having first and second sides that face in opposite directions;

extruding a pair of closure profiles adapted to be interconnected with one another;

extruding a pair of slider retaining shoulders adapted for retaining a slider on the recloseable package;

forming a precursor package structure by connecting the closure profiles and the retaining shoulders to the package body while the closure profiles, the retaining shoulders, and the package body are in a molten state, the closure profiles of the precursor package structure being positioned to project outward from the first side of the package body, and the retaining shoulders of the precursor package structure being positioned to project outwardly from the second side of the package body;

cooling the molten precursor package structure to solidify the closure profiles, the retaining shoulders, and the package body.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the package body, the closure profiles, and the retaining shoulders are simultaneously extruded from a single extrusion die.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein the package body is extruded at a first extrusion die, and at least one pair of the pairs of retaining shoulders and closure profiles is extruded from a second separate extrusion die.

19. The method of claim 16, wherein the precursor package structure is cooled by a chill roller.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the closure profiles are further cooled by a cooling fluid applied to the closure profiles.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the cooling fluid is applied by a sprayer.

22. The method of claim 16, wherein the package structure is cooled in a cooling bath.

23. The method of claim 16, wherein the package structure is cooled by a coolant sprayed on the package structure.

24. The method of claim 16, further comprising conveying the precursor package structure about a roller, wherein the first side of the package body faces the roller as the package structure is conveyed about the roller, and wherein the roller includes reduced diameter portions that correspond to the closure profiles and an increased diameter portion that corresponds to the package body.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein the reduced diameter portions comprise grooves.

26. The method of claim 16, further comprising conveying the precursor package structure about a roller, wherein the second side of the package body faces the roller as the package structure is conveyed about the roller, and wherein the roller includes an increased diameter portion that corresponds to the package body.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the roller includes reduced diameter portions corresponding to the pair of retaining shoulders of the package structure.

28. The method of claim 16, further comprising conveying the precursor package structure about a roller, wherein the roller includes a resilient outer surface having sufficient resiliency to prevent the closure profiles from deforming as the package structure is conveyed about the roller.

29. The method of claim 16, wherein the precursor package structure is cooled at a water bath, and the package structure enters the water bath generally at a right angle relative to a top surface of the water bath.

30. The method of claim 16, wherein the precursor package structure comprises a web with the closure profiles located at opposite edges of the web.

31. The method of claim 16, further comprising casting a peel seal, and incorporating the peel seal into the precursor package structure prior to cooling.